

REMARKS

Applicant filed an Amendment and Reply on September 11, 2008, in response to an Office Action mailed June 11, 2008. A Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment was mailed on December 12, 2008, and indicated that each claim had not been provided with the proper status identifier. In the present Amendment and Reply, Applicant presents claim 29 with the correct status identifier of "Withdrawn-Currently Amended". Applicant believes the present Amendment and Reply to be in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121.

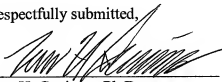
Claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-12, 15-17, 19-21, 23-26, and 28 are pending. Claims 4-5, 9-10, 18, 22, 27, and 29-41 are withdrawn. Claims 13-14 are canceled. Claims 1 and 29 are amended. The Remarks on pages 10-13 of the Amendment and Reply filed on September 11, 2008 provide support for the amendments herein, argue that the pending claims as amended are patentable, and are hereby incorporated by reference.

Applicants maintain that, for the reasons provided in the Remarks of the September 11, 2008 Amendment and Reply, all pending claims not withdrawn, claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-12, 15-17, 19-21, 23-26, and 28, are patentable and that, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Applicants respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance of all pending claims not withdrawn, claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-12, 15-17, 19-21, 23-26, and 28, be timely issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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